

Sterne Kessler Goldstein Fox



Robert J. Ziemke
Edward J. Kessler
George A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cornwell
Robert W. Eymond
Tracy Gene G. Dunkle
Michael A. J. Frada
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokol
Eric K. Steffe
Michael D. Lee
Steven H. Ludwig
John M. Lovett
Linda E. Auer
Robert C. Young
Lawrence B. Bugalsky
Donald J. Featherstone
Michael V. Messenger

Judith L. Kim
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.
Patrick E. Garrett
Heidi J. Klaus
Edward W. Lee
Albert J. Fung
Donald R. Balcourt
Peter A. Jackman
Molly A. Muller
Teresa J. Meder
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Kendrick P. Patterson
Vincent L. Caputo
Albert J. Fung
John J. Busch, Jr.
Thomas J. Fara
Brian J. Del Buono
Virginia Beaton

Kimberly N. Redduk
Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes
Bruce E. Chaker
Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank P. Cottingham
Christine M. Chaler
Rae Lynn Pridemore
Jane Sherburne
Lawrence J. Carr
George A. Balderson
Daniel A. Klein
Rodney G. Mace
Jason D. Overberg
Michael A. Spert
Andrea J. Kahanke
Tracy J. Muer
Jon E. Wright

JoAnne M. Yoncek
Registered Patent Agents
Kater R. Markowicz
Kathy E. Leith
Ann E. Summerfield
Heidi C. Carlson
Judy L. Longworth
Matthew J. Fawcett
Arthur J. Schwartz
Angela J. Levy
Mary B. Long
Kathleen R.
Ryan J. Keltner
Robert A. J. Wattman
John J. Aguerda
Timothy A. Doyle
Jennifer R. Mahalingappa

Teresa A. Corolla
Jeffrey S. Ludgren
Victoria S. Rotherford
Off Counsel
Kenneth C. Bass
Lisa A. Dunner
Evan R. Smith

*Admitted only in Maryland
*Admitted only in Virginia
*Practice limited to
Federal Agencies

August 21, 2003

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:

(202) 772-8525

INTERNET ADDRESS:

BRIAND@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1637

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/266,935; Filed: March 12, 1999
For: **Compositions and Methods For Enhanced Synthesis of
Nucleic Acid Molecules**
Inventors: Li *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4560001/RWE/BJD

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

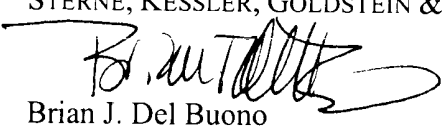
1. Supplemental Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.


Brian J. Del Buono
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 42,473

BJD/PRK/adw:krd
Enclosures

RECEIVED
AUG 26 2003
TECH CENTER